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2004/10/28 : CIA-RDP80R017

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S E C R E T

Date and time recd.

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CITE DIRECTOR

TO IMMEDIATE SAIGON

RYBAT

REFS:

1. RE REF B, PROBLEMS YOU RAISE ARE OF COURSE VALID. AT THIS END WE ARE NONETHELESS WORKING WITH OUR SET OF DICTATED GIVENS, SOME OF WHICH MAY SIMPLY BE INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE GIVENS DICTATED BY THE REAL WORLD SITUATION AT YOUR END. WHAT IS HERE REQUIRED, THEREFORE, IS GOOD SENSE AND THE ~~XXX~~ RULE OF REASON, AT LEAST WITHIN THE [] FAMILY.

2. OUR PROBLEM IS SIMPLE, AND INFLEXIBLE. WE, ALONG WITH STATE AND DEFENSE, HAVE BEEN FORMALLY TASKED BY [REDACTED] WITH PROVIDING A DAILY SITREP FOR [REDACTED] WHICH IS TO BE SUBMITTED AT 1600. OUR SITREP IS TO COVER THE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED IN

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TO [REDACTED] WE OBVIOUSLY WANT, AND NEED TO BUILD OUR SUB-
MISSION AROUND YOUR INPUT.

3. WE, OF COURSE, READ ALL AVAILABLE TRAFFIC, INCLUDING
OTHER MISSION COMPONENTS' INPUTS AND CERTAINLY DO NOT EXPECT (OR
WANT) YOU TO EXPEND EFFORT DUPLICATING INFORMATION YOU KNOW IS
BEING REPORTED IN OTHER CHANNELS. WHAT WE DO NEED, HOWEVER, IS
INFORMATION YOU THINK OTHER MISSION COMPONENTS MAY NOT BE RE-
PORTING (OR COVERING ADEQUATELY) PLUS, IN PARTICULAR, YOUR
INTERPRETATIVE COMMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS. REF C AND SAIGON

25X1

[REDACTED] WERE GOOD EXAMPLES OF THE KIND OF DOCUMENT WE
NEED.

4. BE ASSURED THAT WE DO NOT LIKE DAILY SITREPS ANY MORE
THAN YOU DO. WE HOPE (PERHAPS UNREALISTICALLY) THAT WE MAY
SOON BE ABLE TO GET OUR SITREP CUSTOMER TO THROTTLE BACK TO A
TWICE OR THRICE WEEKLY SCHEDULE. AT THIS WRITING, HOWEVER,
THERE IS NO CHANCE OF ANY SUCH SUGGESTIONS BEING FAVORABLY

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RECEIVED AND FLOATING ONE WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.

5. ON TIMING, IF AN 1800 HOURS LOCAL FILING TIME IS BETTER FOR YOU, THAT SUITS US FINE. OUR REQUIREMENT IS RECEIPT OF YOUR SUBMISSION NO LATER THAN 1100 OUR TIME (2300 YOURS). IN REF A WE SIMPLY WANTED TO BE SURE YOU KNEW THAT, ACCORDING TO ADMIRAL MOORER, MACV WOULD BE USING A REPORTING "DAY" OF 2000 TO 2000.

6. ONE CAUTIONARY NOTE, IF YOU FILE AT 1800 YOUR TIME BUT THERE IS SOME MATERIAL CHANGE SOON THEREAFTER IN ANY POINTS OR MATERIAL YOU COVER (E.G. NEW DEVELOPMENTS OR SAIGON RECEIPT OF DELAYED PROVINCIAL/REGIONAL INFORMATION), PLEASE LET US KNOW AT ONCE, BY FLASH ADVISORY, IF NECESSARY. CASE IN POINT IS PARA 2 AND 3 OF REF C, WHICH WE WERE ABOUT TO USE IN OUR 30 JANUARY

REPORT WHEN WE GOT COPY OF 1045EST JOINT STAFF (NMCC) MEMO TO JCS CHAIRMAN. LATTER SAID MACV WAS REPORTING THAT GVN

MARINES HAD BEEN FORCED TO WITHDRAW FROM CUA VIET MOUTH POSITIONS UNDER HEAVY ATTACK, MARINES HAD HEAVY CASUALTIES AND

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COULD NOT HOLD NEW POSITIONS WITHOUT ADDITIONAL FIRE SUPPORT.
~~XXXX~~ SAME NMCC MEMO SAID ELEMENTS OF TWO ARVN AIRBORNE
 BATTALIONS WERE UNDER ATTACK THREE NAUTICAL MILES SOUTH OF
 QUANG TRI, TWO ENEMY BATTALIONS WERE ATTEMPTING TO CROSS
 THACH HAN RIVER AND SITUATION WAS TENUOUS.

7. NEXT FEW DAYS AND WEEKS ARE NOT GOING TO BE EASY ONES
 FOR INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS IN SAIGON OR WASHINGTON. IF WE
 WITHIN STAY IN CLOSE TOUCH AND MAKE MOST REASONABLE
 POSSIBLE RESPONSES TO WHAT MAY SOMETIMES BE UNREASONABLE
 REQUESTS, WE CAN WEATHER THE INEVITABLY DIFFICULT PERIOD OF
 UNCERTAINTY AND TRANSITION WITHOUT UNDUE INTERNAL STRESS. NONE
 OF ABOVE, OF COURSE, IS ANY CRITICISM OF YOUR REPORTING. IT HAS
 BEEN GREAT AND WE WOULD BE DEAD IN THE WATER WITHOUT IT.

E2, IMPDET, WN-SISM END OF MESSAGE

OCI (in draft)
 VNO ☒

C/FE

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George A. Carver, Jr., SAV

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